(b) As regards the demand for Rs. 1827 crores for the development of Calcutta on proposal in this regard had been received from the State Government.

Mandays loss in West Bengal higher despite fewer lockouts

1274. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in Business Standard of 7th April, 1989 under the caption "mandays loss in West Bengal higher despite fewer lockouts"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA) : (a) and (b) According to the latest available information, while the number of lockouts was 196 in West Bengal during 1987 and 1988, the loss of mandays due to lockouts was 25·28 million in 1988 as compared to to 22·78 million in 1987.

In both the years, all the lockouts in the State were in establishments falling within the State sphere under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the State Government is the appropriate authority to deal with the matter. With a view to modernising and rehabilitating the Jute Industry, the Central Government have created a Jute Modernisation Fund and a Special Development Fund for Modernisation and Rehabilitation of the Jute mills. Government have also enacted the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 providing for the compulsory use of Jute Bags in certain industries.

Clearance to project report for Coconut Cultivation in Kerala

1275. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Project Report at a cost of Rs. 21·37 crores sent by Kerala Government to cover one lakh hectareof coconut cultivation in 4 districts viz., Trivandrum, Eirnakulam, Trichur and Calicut, is still pending with the Centre, which is basically as per the guidelines under the Technology Mission for oil seeds ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to give immediate clearance to this Project Report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Technology Mission on Oilseeds (TMO) had advised the State Governments to prepare State Mission documents for oilseed development, detailing therein the participating agencies, their precise role, objectives targets, etc., so that definite Action Plans on a time-bound basis could be implemented and closely monitored. On the basis of this advice the Government of Kerala prepared a document and a copy of this was submitted to the TMO. In this document State Govt. had indicated a financial requirement of Rs. 21·38 crores to be equally shared by the Centre and the State for the development of coconut.

Central assistance for coconut development is being provided through the Coconut Development Board. During the Seventh Plan, a provision of Rs. 3·12 crores was made for the development of cocunut in Kerala; Rs. 2.02 crores to be pro-